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### The howling Huskies

The Huskies celebrate after pulling off a big win against the St. Michael's Buzzers on Nov. 4 in Minden, with a final score of 5-2 Huskies. See more photos on page 14. /TIM YANO Special to the Times

### County hears how economics stymie housing progress

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton County needs 750 new units by 2029 to meet its affordable housing needs.

Michelle Corley, manager of housing and homelessness at the City of Kawartha Lakes, brought Haliburton County council up to speed Oct. 25 on efforts toward securing affordable housing to meet local needs.

Kawartha Lakes also oversees housing and homelessness in Haliburton County. They're required to plan and oversee delivery of housing and homelessness programs, resources, and services.

"These programs and services touch most

areas of the housing continuum, including everything from unsheltered homelessness, emergency shelter, community housing, affording housing, and affordable homeownership," Corley said.

Although there may be some market rate rental properties, communities have housing with rent geared to income.

"Given the low incomes of these households ... these projects typically require ongoing operating and rent subsidies to make the projects viable," she said. "Locally, we strive to have any newer affordable housing that's come into play also meet rent geared to income rent levels.'

see HOUSING page 2

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Over 20 organizations and local businesses braved the cold in last year's Minden Santa Claus Parade. Kinsley and Ewelina Porzuczek with Arianna Austen were all smiles on the Minden Home Hardware float. /FILE



Last year hundreds came out to celebrate the season and wave to Santa.

### Here comes Santa Claus

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

Santa Claus is coming to town! On Nov. 18, Minden will be welcoming Santa and his team to Minden. "This year the theme [of the parade] is the 'joy' of Christmas," said Candace McGuigan, the manager of parks, recreation and facilities for the Township of Minden Hills.

With 22 floats this year, including a special Santa Claus float, this year is shaping up to be magical, whimsical, and memorable. "We're excited to see the children's faces," said McGuigan, "as well as the twinkle in the eyes of all watchers as it is a magical time of year."

While this may be the first year the new manager has run the parade with the township, she's no stranger to these types of events. She is organizing the event in tandem with recreation coordinator Sarah Purdy. "Yes this is our first time organizing and marshaling a parade," said McGuigan, "but we are both versed in running and organizing events. We may be classed as the lead but an event to this scale involves all township departments to work together, as well as working with the OPP."

McGuigan noted that an event of this scale truly requires a village of people. "We have team members that have been part of the parade in previous years," she said, "so providing insight on how it was set up previous years and walking us through the steps has been very beneficial, and we are grateful for the team approach."

The parade is set to start at 11 a.m. on Nov. 18, on Bobcaygeon Road and Parkside Street, then head south on Bobcaygeon Road to Newcastle Street before ending at the administrative office parking lot, off St. Germaine Street downtown.

This year, McGuigan suggested that attendees bring a bag for the children to collect candies and goodies that will be dispersed during the parade. She also noted that it is an outdoor event, so reminded families to dress for the conditions, and be prepared for some chilly weather.

As in other years, the Minden Hills Cultural Centre will be hosting a holiday event that same day, called Christmas in the Village, featuring homemade baked goods, an old-fashioned candy shop, a local artisan market, hot chocolate and treats, and Santa making his way to the centre after the parade to hear the holiday wishes from visitors.

For more information on the parade, as well as a series of holiday activities hosted by the Township of Minden Hills, visit www.mindenhills.ca.

### Housing needs in county 'a bone-chilling nightmare'

from page 1

New affordable housing units as well as community housing units are included within a single application.

In legislation, the Housing Services Act requires service managers to implement a 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan

Corley said the current plan was adopted in 2020 after extensive public consultation with Haliburton County residents and other social agencies. It has more than 60 objectives covering eight policy areas.

For the first time, the plan contains affordable housing targets.

"In order to meet local needs for affordable housing, 750 new affordable housing opportunities are needed by 2029 specifically in the County of Haliburton," Corley said.

Three models were presented in 2019 when the plan was in its formative stage. Halliburton County chose the more aggressive model to meet its needs.

"The approach taken with the targets was that we needed several partners to help us achieve them," she said. "Council supported the goal that KLH Housing Corp. would build 150 new affordable rental units in the county with non-profit partners and private developers each contributing 50 new units."

As many as 500 existing or new market rent units will need to be accessed to make them affordable through rent subsidies.

Households have been added to the community housing wait list over the last three years at a rate of 12 to 13 times greater than households are taken off the list and are awarded housing.

"This is increasing wait times and now folks are sometimes waiting up to 14 years for an opportunity at community housing," Corley said. "And it's causing residents to be in very precarious housing situations while they wait for this opportunity."

Because of the increased need for a dwindling housing supply, the demand has enabled rents to outpace household incomes. That's wrought a 72 per cent rent increase over the last five years.

In Haliburton County, the KLH Housing Corp. has achieved 15 new affordable rental units since the plan's start in 2020. And, she said, there's a potential for another 35 to be added to the affordable housing inventory.

"But that's still to be determined," she said. "So, really, we are looking at aiming for at least another 700 units to meet our targets by 2029."

About \$400,000 is needed to build a new affordable housing unit.

"This has risen significantly over the last few years, given increases in construction costs," Corley said.

So, basically, \$49-million is required annually to meet the plan's 2029 target.

Unmet affordable housing need shows up in other areas. It can directly impact municipal budgets through funding more emergency shelters to compensate for the initial unmet need.

"Emergency shelters are simply a way to warehouse individuals," she said. "Unless there's affordable housing for people to flow into, it's really getting more and more challenging to see people only stay in an emergency shelter for a short period of time."

Kirstin Maxwell, the CEO at the KLH Housing Corp., progress has been made in the last decade, despite the challenges. Municipalities have waived development fees. There's been land donations and cash contributions.

KLH Housing Corp. stock has increase by 69 housing units in Haliburton County over the last 10 years, Maxwell said.

Don Quibell, manager of buildings and properties at the KLH Housing Corp., planning for projects start about five years in advance of breaking ground. And that presents another hurdle.

Five years ago, construction costs were about \$200 per

square foot. Today, those costs have ballooned to as much as between \$350 per square foot and \$450 per square foot, he said

That's brought a development from a \$9.2-million project to an almost \$17-million project.

"What we end up with is twice the expense to build that property," Quibell said.

Similar cost increases go down the line to other facets of a development project.

"Each time interest rates increase, the situation just becomes worse," said Maxwell.

Councillor Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, said some other housing corporations have reported similar high development costs per square foot, with some as high as \$500 per square foot.

"And it's not changing," he said. "It seems to continue to accelerate."

Nothing short of a provincial-federal "pixie dust" magic program will offset the circumstances that hinder meeting capital needs to make housing projects," Carter said.

"This is a nightmare," said Coun. Jennifer Dailloux, Algonquin Highlands' deputy mayor. "It is a bone-chilling nightmare."

And it's one shared by the entire province, she said. Nothing short of a complete overhaul of the economic system will alleviate it.

Coun. Cecil Ryall, Highlands East's deputy mayor, said he can remember when interest rates were as high as 20 per cent and houses were still being built.

"What did we do then to enable us to build that we could rob and duplicate in scale slightly today?" he said. "Because at five and six per cent (interest), even if it goes to seven per cent, is nowhere near the plus-20 per cent that we were running back in that day."

# HCFA seek large animal vet

by BRITNEY PAGLIUCA

Times Staff

On Nov. 1, members of the Haliburton County Farmers Association (HCFA) met to discuss future plans, current projects and ongoing issues for farmers across the county.

The first topic of discussion was led by Minna Shleifenbaum, owner of The Wild Life Equestrian Facility, who gave updates on the prospect of a new large animal vet for the county.

Shleifenbaum has been in contact with a vet from Lindsay to discuss the logistics of accommodating the community's large animal vet needs. Presently, this vet has been servicing Haliburton County by emergency calls only, however the future goal is for them to visit the county once a week.

"We should know soon regarding their decision to take up this contract," Shleifenbaum said.

The lack of access to a large animal vet in the county has been an ongoing issue for two years now.

Carol Lee of Vinegar Hill Farm commented on why this challenge is so serious. "We are legally responsible for our animals and owe them proper care, but this becomes extremely difficult when we are unable to access sufficient tools, medication or medical aid," she said.

Shane Dykstra of Split Rock Heritage Homestead advised that perhaps the best thing farmers can do for themselves in the absence of a large animal vet is to constantly check on your herd and reach out to other large animal farmers who hold knowledge about how to care for them and can lend support or advice.

"It's disappointing," Dykstra said, "because inaccessibility to a large animal vet has the potential to deter others from farming and owning large animals in the county.'

The Haliburton County Farmer's Association remains hopeful that this issue will soon be resolved, however, as Godfrey Tyler of Waverly Brook Farm said, "we have been hopeful for two years now."

### HCFA in the Community

The HCFA has decided that they will be participating in this year's Santa Clause parade in Haliburton with a Charlotte's Web themed float.

HCFA members and the Haliburton Feed and Seed have also opted to make a donation to the Haliburton County Public Library to help fund programs that support children's

If any farmers or other locals are seeking more information about Haliburton County's Farmers Association, check out their Facebook page and keep an eye out for a new website that is underway.

An Annual General Meeting will be taking place on Jan. 18, 2024. All are welcome to attend.

> Vinegar Hill's newest addition. Clifford is a two week old Canadienne/Red Devon bull calf. /BRITNEY PAGLIUCA Staff



### Contractor tapped to assess MH public works buildings

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Minden Hills public works buildings are starting to show their age through wear and tear.

Mike Timmins, the township's public works director, told council when it met Oct. 26 that an engineering firm had been chosen to complete assessments on three public works buildings, the sand domes, and offices.

The work will include a designated substance survey aside from the physical assessment of the buildings' conditions.

Cambium Inc. had the successful bid out of the field of

The project will include the initial assessment as well as a recommended maintenance schedule and estimates costs for

As a provisional item, the respondents were asked to provide costs for a designated substance survey in addition to the physical assessment.

The 2023 capital budget included \$40,000 to complete this project. Cambium offered to do the work for \$18,938.80. And that includes \$2,500 for a designated substances survey of township council chambers.

The initial assessment does not include any exploratory openings. These openings may be required if there is reason to believe that there are issues that go beyond the visual inspection.

In the event that additional exploratory openings are recommended, the consultant will communicate with the director of public works to determine the best path forward.

Exploratory openings are estimated to cost between \$500 and \$1,500, depending on the scenario.

"It's well within budget and, for everyone's health and safety, it's money well spent," Timmins said.

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### **VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipality Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

> November 09- Regular Council Meeting November 30- Regular Council Meeting December 14- Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or a live-stream link available on the Township CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting: please download by visiting our CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx. Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting

### MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE FOUNDATION

The Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Wednesday December 13 at 4 pm. All members of the MHCCF are welcome to attend. Please email mindenhillsccfoundation@gmail.com for more information.

### WINTER PARKING

From Nov 1st to Apr 30th, overnight parking is prohibited between the hours of midnight and 8:00 AM on township roadways and parking lots. Furthermore, parking in the turning circle of a cul-de-sac is prohibited during all hours. Vehicles parked in these areas that prohibit the removal of snow will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense

#### **CULTURAL CENTRE**

Shifting Lens, a group exhibit featuring 15 artists from the Eastern Hub of the Ontario Society of Artists, will be on display until November 25, 2023, in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Admission is by donation. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email

culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca

Join the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library for a special screening of the documentary Unwanted Soldiers, taking place at the Cultural Centre on Thursday, November 9 starting at 5 pm. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. Proceeds will go to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 636 - Minden. The film is provided courtesy of the NFB. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email

culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca The Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library welcome you to join us for movies on PA Days! On every PA Day starting at 1:00 PM, there will be a free, family-friendly movie screening that takes place in the Welch Room of the Minden Hills Cultural

Centre. Our next movie is scheduled for Friday. November 17. No registration is required. Snacks will be provided, however, please feel free to bring your own as well. Vote for your favourite movie to watch at the Haliburton County Public Library, Minden Branch, or online at the following link: https://www.haliburtonlibrary.ca/Programs-Events/PA-Day-Movies?id=1696611600-186416. For more information, please call

705-286-3763 or email <u>culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca</u> Christmas in the Village takes place on Saturday, November 18 from 11 am - 3 pm. Visit Santa from 12-2 pm and sip hot chocolate as you tour the heritage village. Don't miss the Old-Fashioned candy shop, fresh baked goods for sale in the Bowron House, hands-on activities and games for children and our outdoors Artisan's Market. We are also accepting vendors for our Artisan Market. The registration fee is \$10 for a 10'x10' area. Please contact <u>culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca</u> or call 705-286-3763 x 542

to reserve your spot.

#### **WASTE DISPOSAL**

Accepted items include: Clothing, Footwear, Rags, Scarves, Purses and HandbagsHats, Gloves, Linens (towels, blankets, etc.) You can also donate your gently used, reusable items to the Anglican Church Thrift Shop where donations go back into the community. Consider donating linens such as blankets and sheets to one of the local animal shelter organizations.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Winter Heating Fire Safety Tips:

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet (one metre) away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater
- · Have a three-foot (one metre) "kid-free zone" around open fires and
- · Never use your oven to heat your home. Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every
- · Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going
- · Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- · Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- · Keep a fire extinguisher near your wood burning appliance.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.

# Going to the mattresses - MH tries to save money

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Minden Hills is looking for a means to keep discarded mattresses dry at the landfill.

Mike Timmins, the township's public works director, told council during its Oct. 26 regular meeting that the municipality often pays weather-inflated costs to have them hauled from the Scotch Line Landfill.

Discarded mattresses are collected with the construction and demolition waste at the landfill. Then the mattresses are hauled away to be processed offsite.

"Which is obviously a cost to the township," Timmins said. "We go by weight when we haul out. So a mattress sitting out there absorbing all the rain and everything, then it gets weighed and hauled away, we're more than likely paying more than what a mattress really weighs and what it really should cost."

As some measure of cost recovery, he said there's a \$30 fee to people who bring their discarded mattress to the Scotch Line Landfill. He said that disposal fee has generated about \$15,000 annually for municipal coffers.

Mattresses left out in the elements are no longer recyclable.

Timmins said there's been attempts at finding a contractor to deal with the mattresses. Staff reached out to a company, Recyc-Mattress, that operates out of Woodbridge.

"Recyc-Mattress is world-renowned in the dismantling of used mattresses and box springs as well as in waste diversion," staff wrote in a report to council. "They have a unique technology that enables high-volume processing. Between Ontario and Quebec, more than 400,000 units are recycled each year."

Timmins said the township would need a bin in which the mattresses can be stored at the landfill. Recyc-Mattress does partner with another company to supply bins to their customers. However, the Minden area is outside of their limits.

In 2021, the township investigated bin rental and hauling of mattresses with Mid-Ontario. Due to staffing changes shortly thereafter, this program did not launch.

Staff recently reached out to Mid-Ontario to determine the feasibility of restarting the mattress recycling program.

"It kind of got put on hold," Timmins said.
"But now that we're fully staffed, we want to get this back out on the radar."

Mid-Ontario currently provides the township's blue box hauling and processing services.

Mid-Ontario is able to provide the necessary enclosed bin in order to properly store the mattresses and box springs, keeping them out of the weather elements until they can be hauled to the Recyc-Mattress facility.

The bin rental will cost about \$200 monthly. Haulage will ding the township wallet for \$1,275 per trip. Assuming six trips a year, that'll be \$7,650.

"I was surprised to see this because I know that this had been approved before in a different way," Mayor Bob Carter said. "I thought it was working."

Rental costs for the bin would be \$2,400 annually. Councillor Pam Sayne suggested some savings could be found in using a sea can to store the mattresses.

"Is that an option or now?" she said. "Or some kind of bin that we purchase as opposed to rent."

"We denied the OPP using a sea can, so I'm not sure we can go that route," Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell said.

Staff Sgt. Robert Flindall, the local OPP detachment commander, had asked council to allow the police service to situate a sea can outside their station.

"The size of our detachment limits our usable space for (redacted) storage and we are currently quite full, including a pre-existing shed at the rear of our property," Flindall wrote in a letter to township council.

Sea cans are illegal in the township, council decided during the June 29 meeting to

maintain that hard line.

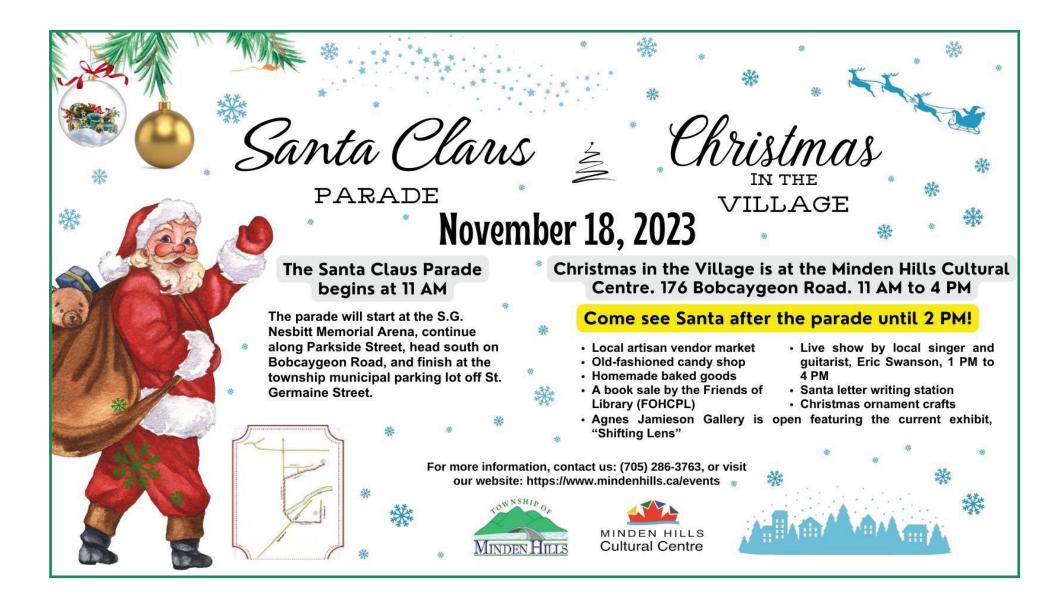
Coun. Ivan Ingram suggested constructing some kind of building at the site to store the mattresses

Timmins said that option is something staff can investigate.



### **Power Up for climate solutions**

On Nov. 4, climate activists gathered in Sam Slick Park in Haliburton to protest the use of fossil fuels and promote green, renewable energy. The demonstration was hosted by Dr. Nell Thomas and Susan Hay and took place worldwide in partnership with 350.org, an international environmental organization addressing the climate crisis. This is the first time that a 350.org protest has been hosted in Haliburton County, however Thomas said, "calls for action are becoming more frequent as the climate crisis intensifies." The focus for this demonstration was on making the switch to renewable energy sources and to urge policy makers to rapidly stop emitting all greenhouse gases. "We have the technology," Thomas said. "We need the will." Speeches by organizers Hay and Thomas were concluded with a chant: "Power up. End fossil fuels fast, fair and forever." Those seeking more information on climate solutions can find so at www. globalpowerup.org or 350.org. /BRITNEY PAGLIUCA Staff



# Choose thriving over growth

'M NOT opposed to accepting that mankind needs periodically to be brought to its knees. In Judeo-Christian mythology (and perhaps in other monotheistic cultures) we have the story of the Flood. In polytheistic mythology we have a relentless god-against-god battle in a universe that exceeds the earth, which gives them an exit ramp when things get extreme. In pantheistic mythology the tension between growth and decline is natural, and disaster happens when the connections between com-

> ponents become corroded or corrupted.

Life has no meaning if we don't believe that actions have consequences. The tricky bit is figuring out what actions/consequences are ours to own. The limits of agency. How big can we get before we get too big for our britches and get taken down a notch or two? And on the other hand, how responsible are we as individuals to be active players in our society? Marx



**FAY MARTIN** Poke, Peel, Pair, Ponder

offered 'from each according to his ability, to each according to his need': it may not have worked well at the macro level, but it's the way small groups thrive. Think family. Think community.

Perhaps the vulnerability in Marx's formula is how we define 'ability' and how we define 'need'.

The problem with defining need is easily evident: we have collectively become greedy at every level of civic organization, black holes of consumption, great gobblers of anything and everything. This was never so evident as during the pandemic when money flew up the economic scale at unprecedented rates and stayed there. The run on toilet paper was emblematic (as well as an embarrassing

reflection of our values). We never did get around to sharing our extraneous vaccines with the developing world.

We know that in smaller social groupings, like a family, we define what is needed within some consideration of what's available. We accept that only one person at a time can ride shot-gun.

We don't presume that the last scoop of mashed potatoes or extra slice of apple pie is needed by whoever gobbles their food most quickly. We acknowledge that the family car can't be two places at once. Out of this need for sharing comes the fine art of negotiating.

We also know that when there is not enough of essentials to meet basic need, sharing and negotiating go out the window: we act like pigs at the trough, doing what's necessary to get what we can, more than we need this time because next time what we need might not be available. I understand this dynamic when essentials are inadequate, but the greed of capitalism is different. Capitalism is a zombie that walks among us, pretending to be human but lacking ethics or morality, at the mercy of its id-like DNA – what sneaky anthropomorphizing is that! -- which is to make a profit.

The problem with defining 'ability' is more nuanced because the value of what one does is determined in context. President Roosevelt was able to govern pretty well even though he was in a wheelchair. Stephen Hawking made a significant contribution to science even as ALS rendered pretty much all but his brain non-functioning. Women have been told they have few / irrelevant / no abilities for much of historical times; ownership of the unique abilities they possess (e.g. having babies, although the race is on to replace that uniqueness) has been a battle ground since time immemorial.

I think the way forward is that we reconsider what we need. Put ourselves on a materialism diet, really think about every single expenditure, start bragging about what we didn't buy. Taking seriously the invitation to slay inflation by spending less. Especially with necessities at ridiculous prices, we could begin to practice how to redefine need, rein in greed, take baby steps leading to the equivalent of stomach stapling our material appetite.

And the other thing we could do, well within our ambit, is overtly, publicly, naming and claiming ability that is unvalued or undervalued. Volunteer work. Neighbouring. Parenting. Caregiving. Stewardship. Putting civil into civic – minding our manners. Bearing witness.

This will not grow the GDP. It will not make us rich. But. It will cause us to thrive. Individually. As small groups. As collectives of small groups. As community in the old fashioned sense of the word, those with whom we share something in common – a physical space, a belief, a value, an interest, a cause. As with correcting unwanted behaviour in children, we should learn to accentuate the positive, celebrate the good whenever the opportunity presents itself, be your best self as often as you can.

In itself this is not much, but if enough of us do it, it will turn this ship around.





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### Not the time to forget

'VE BEEN sitting with this document open all week. A Remembrance Day editorial. There should be lots to say. How we remember. How we honour the fallen soldiers who have bled out in the name of our country. How the folks from the local legions stand proud through sleet and slush and ice to hand out felted poppies to make sure no one forgets.

Remembrance Day is a celebration of stories; of looking back through time and seeing the young faces who truly believed they were doing the right thing. The women who knit socks and sent them overseas for years on end. The letters and trinkets and songs that were exchanged between friends and lovers; each one holding a sentimental value you can't put a price on.

I can appreciate these stories; the souls behind each one and the human element that allows us to feel connected to the lives of the past.

But it's hard to write about that, because it's not over. While we pin the red poppies on our lapels and raise our glasses to those who have fallen, it's easy to forget that the rage of

war still screams from the corners of the world we don't often look at.

As of this week, it is presumed that in the Palestine and Israel ongoing conflict, since Oct. 7, over 10,800 have died; most of them innocent civilians and children.

Since Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022, there have been 27,149 civilian casualties. The conflict is ongoing as

Wars haven't stopped because we're not participating in them the same way. Every day around this globe, people die in the name of a war. Some war. Any

My kids have asked me why wars happen. What's the purpose? What can be so big that it's worth the price of a human life? And for that, I don't have an answer for them. Sometimes it's a deity, a belief, a calling. Other times, it's financial. A bit of oil. A profit to be made. Often it's just land. A few acres

of ownership that apparently makes all the difference in the world. Like those parcels of property can be standing between despair and happiness.

Nearly always, it's not your everyday Joe who declares war. The women and men of Haliburton County weren't hankering for a conflict when they packed up their burlap sacks and left the quiet hamlet of our town on a wish and a prayer.

They were told they needed to go. Told it would make them heroes. Told they had to be brave. Told that to die would be an honour. Told by a person who they had never met, but chose to follow. A person who said they wanted the greater good, while they sat at their desks and unrolled maps with a side of Scotch.

The part I always find missing from

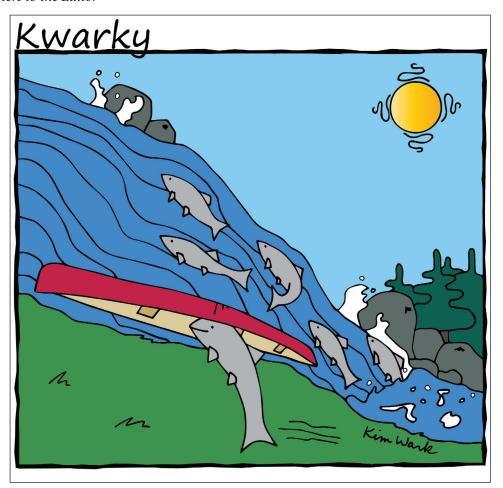
those war stories, is the fear. No matter how hard I try, I can't picture myself in those shoes. I can't picture a world where my husband tells me he's leaving, and knowing full well that means he likely won't return. I can't picture a world where my kids hide under their desks while war planes fly overhead. I can't picture a world where my

home and belongings are casualties of an invasion. I can't picture a world where my family could be spread across the globe, and any fragment of certainty and security was beaten to a pulp.

But that's still the world we live in. We may not be seeing it every day. May not be directly impacted. But that fear, that hate, that anger, that confusion - it's all still out there. Alive and well.

So as we celebrate these stories; the ones of our locals and our grandparents and our heritage, let us take a deep dive into the whys of war; who is really to blame, and why are we still letting it

Because remembering the past can walk hand-in-hand with learning about our future. And that's something no one should forget.



### Field dressing is for the young

O NON-HUNTERS, the term field dressing instantly conjures up images of a person putting on clothes while standing in the middle of a field. To the hunter, however, it conjures up opening a dead deer and removing its innards. In both cases, most people would prefer to avert their eyes.

Field dressing is one of those necessary chores that needs to be done as soon as the dead deer is recovered. The good news is that it doesn't have to be done by you.

You see, in every deer camp there is that one guy who legitimately enjoys field dressing a deer. And, if you are the person who always does it in your camp, that's who the other hunters think vou are.

I was once that guy. The older hunters in

camp would say things like, "Where's Steve. He's really good at field dressing.'

"Oh, stop it," I'd say. "Old Bill is better

"No," Old Bill would then reply. "I'm not half as good at it as you are Steve."

Next thing you know, I'd be blushing and elbows deep in a deer's chest cavity. Of course, I never knew if they were telling the truth, because I never saw Old Bill

or anyone else do the job. The fact is no one enjoys field dressing a deer unless they were an Aztec priest in a past life. But what is enjoyable about field dressing is standing by idly while someone else does it. And guys like Old Bill were

masters at it. So, how do you avoid field dressing a deer?

First, get old. If you are old, you can tell everyone that you've field dressed hundreds of deer and its time for the younger fellows to learn how. Heck, I once heard an old guy who was on his first deer hunt say that, and we all instinctively believed him.

Failing that, there is only one other reliable way to ensure you don't get stuck with the job. Immediately walk up to the deer and take hold of one of its hind legs – and don't let go till the thing is field dressed.

> I think it is important to emphasize that before you do this, make sure you are holding the hind leg of the deer that was shot.

Holding a hind leg is important to the process – but it's like being a supervisor in that you never really get your hands dirty. Plus, there needs to be a left and right hind leg holder, so if you are one of the two quickest guys in the group, the

job is yours.

**STEVE GALEA** 

Beyond 35

It's best to be versatile too. In the last deer camp I was in, Tom was much admired for the fact that he was a pinch holder – he could hold either hind leg equally well. So he always got stuck with the job.

When it came time for hind leg holding, the older guys would say, "Where's Tom? He's really good at this?"

"Oh, stop it," Tom would say. "Old Bill is better at it."

"No," Old Bill would then say. "I'm not half as good at it as you are Tom.'

Before you know it, Tom would be blushing and proudly holding onto the deer's hind leg.

And, as I field dressed the deer, I'd look at him and think, "Boy, did those old guys ever put one over on you..."



Editor

**EMILY STONEHOUSE** 

### **INOTHER**WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

# That unequal tax exemption

OLITICS WILL always break your heart," Catherine McKenna once tweeted on the social media platform now called X. She should know. She suffered a barrage of verbal attacks as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's environment and climate change minister, and lead minister on the contentious carbon tax.

She resigned from cabinet and politics in 2021, saying she wanted to spend more time with her children, and working on climate change from outside



JIM POLING SR. From Shaman's Rock

Well, politics certainly broke a lot of hearts when Trudeau announced recently that heating oil will be exempt from the carbon tax. Other heating fuels such as propane and natural gas will not be.

The exemption for home heating oil applies to all Canadians. However, most Canadians do not use it to heat their homes. Statistics Canada says that in 2021 only three percent of households nationally used home heating oil.

Most of Canada's home heating oil users live in the Atlantic provinces – the Liberal stronghold that has helped to keep the Trudeau government in power.

Two in five Prince Edward Island homes, one in three Nova Scotia households and one in five Newfoundland and Labrador homes use furnace heating oil.

The heating oil tax exemption is estimated to save each homeowner using heating oil \$250 a year.

So is it possible the heating oil exemption is designed to encourage Atlantic voters to keep supporting the Liberals? You bet it is.

Proof of this shameful political bribery was provided by one of Trudeau's cabinet ministers. Rural Economic Development Minister Gudie Hutchings told an interviewer that if Westerners, who have complained that Atlantic voters are getting an economic benefit they are not, want similar benefits they should elect more Liberals.

More proof that politicians continue to get bolder, and dumber.

It's not news that politicians favour their own party's ridings, and swing ridings they believe they can win. But it's not often that you see a politician blatantly telling voters to vote the right way or be left out of getting the goodies.

Making it worse this time was that Gudie seemed to do it with insulting contempt for western Canadians.

Trudeau has denied that the tax relief heavily favouring the Atlantic is about saving Liberal seats there, but even some of his own Liberals have scoffed at that. At least two cabinet minister are known to have opposed the exemption.

Just two days before Trudeau announced the exemption, Housing Minister Sean Fraser told the House of Commons that exemptions would make pollution free again. A month earlier, Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault said it would be unfair to carve out exemptions that would benefit only Atlantic

Liberal support in Atlantic Canada has been plunging. In early 2022 polls showed Liberal support in the Atlantic was more than double the support for Conservatives. Polls this fall show a huge reversal with the Conservatives with 39 per cent and the Liberals 30 per cent.

More and more Canadians are beginning to agree that climate change is real and requires immediate action. There is less agreement on how to reduce climate change.

Putting a price on carbon changes – in other words a carbon tax – is considered by many to be a good approach. However, there is hardly universal agreement and the topic is destined to be a controversial subject for some time to come. It likely will be a key issue in provincial elections and the next national vote scheduled for 2025.

The Liberals hold a minority government kept in power by the New Democratic Party. Not much is expected to change that, but in politics there are no guarantees.

One way or another there will be a federal election sometime in the next two years. Many political commentators say the carbon tax, and the way Atlantic voters were exempted from it, will kill the Liberal government.

But there are two scenarios that the commentators say could save it. One, Trudeau will kill the tax for all Canadians, And two, Trudeau will resign as prime minister to allow a new leader to give the party a new look that will be acceptable to more Canadian voters.

We'll just have to wait and see.

The Principles of an Economic Charter of Rights

### Who's looking out for our small businesses?

FRANK STRONACH

Principles

ARLIER THIS year, one of the Co-founders of Home Depot – the world's largest home improvement retailer – publicly stated that if he were to start his company all over again in today's stifling business environment, he doubts whether it could have ever grown any bigger than around 15 stores versus the more than 2,300 stores the chain operates today.

He makes a valid point. With all the chains we put on small business - everything from needless regulations to countless

permits and licenses and endless forms that need to be filled out - it's a wonder most businesses stay open.

Here's why every Canadian should be concerned: according to a Statistics Canada survey published last year, most jobs in Canada don't come from big corporations – they are created by small businesses, which employ nearly two-thirds of Canada's labour force.

In other words, when it comes to job creation, small business matters.

So, the question is: if small business is so critical to job creation and employment in Canada, why don't we pay more attention to this country's small business sector?

With so much of Canada's economic prosperity riding on the success of our small businesses, it's puzzling that politicians don't focus more time and effort on removing obstacles for small business so they can thrive and hire even more people.

It makes you wonder: who's looking out for small business?

Owning and operating a business comes with a lot of struggle and sacrifice. The financial rewards for starting a business should be large enough to compensate for the effort, otherwise who would trade in the security of a salaried job, give up countless weekends and holidays, and put their personal assets and savings on the line just to open a small business?

I've never forgotten what it's like to

own and operate a small business. When I started my business, I worked 16 hours a day, seven days a week. I was out hustling every day trying to drum up new clients, working in the tool shop, and taking care of the books. And when all that was done, I swept the floor.

In the years that followed, my business grew in size and sales. So did many others just like mine. But we had far fewer regulations and restrictions impeding our growth, and taxes were lower. We need to re-create

those conditions so small business can flourish.

An economic charter of rights would allow us to do that. The charter would include measures to eliminate many of the regulatory shackles holding small business back. And it would remove the income tax on any small business with 300 or fewer employees.

Removing the taxes and red tape hindering the success of Canada's small businesses would unleash the kind of economic growth our country hasn't seen in decades.

For that to happen, small businesses throughout the country must unite and band together to push for the principles contained in an economic charter of rights.

If any business association wants to learn more about the proposed Economic Charter, I'd be happy to speak at your event and tell you more about how the charter can help small business. Email me at info@ economiccharter.ca.

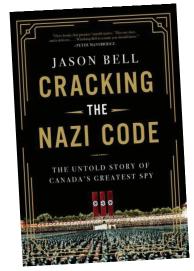
It's time we gave small businesses the runway the need to really take off and soar.

Author Bio

Frank Stronach is the founder of Magna International Inc., one of Canada's largest global companies, and was inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame.

fstronachlpc@gmail.com

### HCPL's Book of the Week



In public life, Dr. Winthrop Bell of Halifax was a respected professor and wealthy businessman. As MI6 secret agent A12, he evaded gunfire and shook off pursuers to break open the emerging Nazi conspiracy in 1919 Berlin. His reports, the first warning of the Nazi plot for WWII, went directly to the man known as C, the mysterious founder of MI6, and to prime ministers.

In 1939, he was the first to crack Hitler>s deadliest secret code: the Holocaust. At that time, the führer was a popular politician who said he wanted peace. Could anyone believe Bell's shocking warning? Fighting an epic intelligence war, A12 was the real-life 007. Without Bell's astounding courage, the Nazis might just have won the war.

Cracking the Nazi Code by Jason Bell is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public

# Why we remember

by BRITNEY PAGLIUCA

Times Staff

In the town of Minden lies a cairn inscribed with the names of locals who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country during WWI, WWII and The Korean War. As I stood in front of it, I wondered, how many of us have ever taken the time to learn about the soldiers memorialized here? Do you recognize any names? What is their story and what does it mean to you?

As I pondered these things I was reminded of my Great Nona Maria.

When I was 13, I visited my family in Italy with my dad for the first time. There, my great grandmother, Nona Maria, lives in a small farmhouse on a hill surrounded by fields of olive trees. Hidden away at the bottom of the hill, we visited a small hut. I learned that this hut was built during the Second World War and served as a hideout for my great grandmother during the war. For months she endured the fear of the unknown and the fear that her husband may not return home. It was in this little hut, that my grandfather was born.

If it weren't for my great Nona Maria's bravery, perseverance and wit, I would not be here today.

We owe it to our relatives, to those who served and to ourselves to learn these stories.

I've spent this past week racking my brain over how I should convey the deep significance of Remembrance Day. As a history major, I've remained riddled with the complex question: why does history matter?

To me, understanding history is essential to our sense of identity. It contains the stories of how our country, families and local groups were formed, and how they evolved and developed over time. It brings us closer to answering difficult questions about the state of the world. History is more than a part of the past. It is a part of our story, of all the stories that make us who we are.

Remembrance Day is more than just a day to memorialize events from a seemingly disconnected past. It is about making connections between the past and present, and recognizing those who fought for the freedoms we have today.

These stories reveal to us the resiliency that runs through our veins and the strength that is a part of who we are.

### Remembering the soldiers of Haliburton County

In November 1915, during the First World War, the 109th Victoria and Haliburton Battalion was formed as part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Volunteers from Victoria and Haliburton counties formed the battalion, which was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel J.J. H. Fee. The battalion, headquartered in Lindsay, had a strength of 1050 by summer 1916 when they left from Halifax on the S.S. Olympic.

Private Duncan Anderson, son of A nnie and John H.



The Welch brothers, Private Henry Welch and Charlie Welch from Halls Lake, attested to the 109th Battalion in 1916. Charles Welch was killed in combat on Jan. 17th 1917 and his brother Henry on May 9th of the same year. /File photo

Anderson, was born in Tory Hill on Oct. 17, 1892. He was part of the Machine Gun Section of the 109th Battalion and died in combat on June 14th, 1918.

Private Hilliard Wood, son of Joseph and Louisa Wood, was born in Port Hope on Sept. 1, 1896. His family lived in Minden when he enlisted at the age of 20. He died in combat in November of 1918.

Private Henry Welch and Charlie Welch, brothers from Halls Lake, attested to the 109th Battalion in 1916. Charles Welch was killed in combat on Jan. 17th 1917 and his brother Henry on May 9th of the same year.

This information is courtesy of the *Minden Cultural Centre's Community Memories* collection, an extension of the *For King and County: Soldiers of the Haliburton Highlands* 2009 exhibit.

It's a great place to start seeking information about family and community members that served their country.

The collection's introduction notes that "The exhibit was not about war or whether a war can be justified. It was about the individuals who put down their tools and said "I'll go."

The collection can help us start to unpack the important questions about the soldiers of Haliburton County. But who were they beyond dates and photographs?

We can also start learning by asking our relatives and other community members. Perhaps it is our responsibility to learn and remember their stories. Perhaps this is how we can honour them.

#### Words from one who serves

Ryan Hill, a 25-year-old from Haliburton, is currently serving in the Canadian military. On the significance of Nov. 11th, Hill said, "To me, Remembrance Day is about remembering those who have served before me and taking time to honour them. It is also a reminder of what it can take to preserve Canadian values and ethics."

I mentioned that this might also be a time to give recognition to those who continue to serve our country, though to Hill the day is less about himself and more about remembering those who served before him. "It can be a tough day for an individual who is serving, but even more so for the people who love and support them."

Currently deployed overseas, Hill will visit a graveyard on Nov. 11th and attend a service. On the other side of the world, we will do the same. While Hill takes this time to honour soldiers who served before him, those who love, and support Hill, will do the same and be thinking of him.

How can we ever repay the people who sacrificed so much for our freedom?

It seems to me that perhaps the only way to do this is by keeping their stories alive. To remind ourselves that these soldiers were not born soldiers. They were friends, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, mothers and fathers first. They walked the same streets that we do today.

To remember is to honour, to say that we have not forgotten your sacrifice, to say thank you.









Kevin Dunlop and Barbara Vandenhoek stand in front of the Remembrance Day display at Haliburton Home Hardware. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

# The red flower over our hearts

by VIVIAN COLLINGS

Times Staff

The Haliburton community has been showing their appreciation for veterans who lost their lives in the line of duty as well as support for those who returned home this Remembrance Day.

The Poppy Campaign is a national fundraiser put on by the Royal Canadian Legion, and in Haliburton, all proceeds are donated to local veteran and cadet programs.

"Last year the campaign donated over \$15,000 to five different programs that help with combat veteran homelessness, provide service dogs assist Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps 1129, and more," said Sandra Beverley, Poppy Campaign coordinator.

Kevin Dunlop, Haliburton Home Hardware employee, has facilitated another front-door display at the store devoted to remembering veterans.

It features chalkboard walls for veterans or their loved ones to write their names on, local photos from Legion branch 129, and many, many poppies.

Dunlop explained the importance of honouring those who served through the display for Remembrance Day.

"I look at my life here in Haliburton, and my wife and I have been able to raise our daughter in a peaceful loving village. She has gone on to marry and have a daughter of her own. I don't take these things for granted. I wish to show respect to the people that stood up left there comfortable homes and protected our way of life," he said. "It's a debt that we can never repay. In two words, I would say I have gratitude and respect."

Barbara Vandenhoek was volunteering to sell poppies at Home Hardware on Friday, Nov. 3 and has been volunteering for the Poppy Campaign for the past 30 years.

"We still have soldiers out there that need assistance, so I'm just glad to help in any way

This year's campaign is running from Friday, Oct. 27 to Friday, Nov. 10.

"Currently we have 90 local businesses assisting us through counter boxes in their businesses, and we have had canvassers actively out on the Friday and Saturdays of Oct. 27, 28, Nov. 3, 4, and Nov. 10, along with a few volunteers canvassing during the week," Beverley said.

The Haliburton Legion still has spots available for canvassing on Friday, Nov. 10.

"You do not need to be a legion member to canvas. This year's canvassers included legion members, local residents, seasonal residents, and several cadets from our local Army Cadet program," she said. "It is a very rewarding experience."

Those interested in volunteering can call the legion at 705-457-2571 or drop into the Clubhouse to check out the Poppy Campaign scheduling board.

Their canvassing locations are: Todd's Independent Grocer, Home Hardware, Tim Hortons, The Beer Store, Glecoff's Family Store, Rexall Drug Store, LCBO, West Guilford Store, and Eagle Lake Store.

Beverley said many local residents and businesses have also supported this year's Remembrance Day by sponsoring a wreath for Saturday's ceremony at the cenotaph.

Beverley reflected on the experience of participating in the ceremony for the first time, and the importance of attending.

"Last year was my first year getting actively involved in the Poppy Campaign, and my first ever Remembrance Day Ceremony. I can still remember marching from the Legion to the Cenotaph and how proud I felt being part of the march, however, what I didn't expect was how humbling the experience was marching back to the legion after the ceremony," she said. "The public started continually clapping as we marched back, I actually started crying while marching, as I had so many emotions going through me."

## **Remembrance Day Services**

### **Minden Legion:**

The Service will commence at 10:45 a.m. on Saturday Nov. 11 with the Act of Remembrance and reading of the County Honour Roll at 11 a.m., followed by the Wreath Laying ceremony and closing remarks.

### **Haliburton Legion:**

Saturday Nov. 11

10 a.m. Short pre-service is being held by the Legion's chaplin, Gary Swagerman, in the main hall at the legion

10:30 a.m. (post service) Sponsors to pick up their wreath if walking in the parade, otherwise wreath will be at Cenotaph

10:35 a.m. Parade from the Haliburton Legion to the Cenotaph

10:50 a.m. Cenotaph program

12 p.m. Light refreshments in the Legion's main hall

Any person or organization wishing to lay a Remembrance Day wreath, please contact the branch at 705-457-2571. Cost to sponsor a wreath is \$40 (no name) or \$50 (name on wreath). Note, this year we are offering sponsors the option to walk in the parade with their wreath, or your wreath will be at the Cenotaph.

### Wilberforce Legion

Service at the cenotaph on Saturday Nov. 11, at 11 a.m. adjacent to the Lloyd Watson Centre. Lunch to follow at the Wilberforce Legion Branch 624 by dona-

#### Kinmount

Service at the cenotaph on Saturday Nov. 11 at 11 a.m.

#### Gooderham

Service at the cenotaph on Saturday Nov. 11 at 2 p.m.

### Gelert

Service at the Gelert Cemetery Saturday, Nov. 11 at 12:30 p.m.





# Dimensions offers retreat program to veterans

by VIVIAN COLLINGS

Times Staff

Many Canadian veterans struggle with treatment-resistant mental health conditions.

Dimensions in Algonquin Highlands, a wellness retreat centre, is offering a different approach to veterans with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety, and depression by combining psychotherapy and other mind-body practices to help relieve symptoms.

"A common phrase we hear among the participants is, 'I feel like myself for the first time in a long time," said Donald Currie, clinical director at Dimensions. "The person that arrives appears very different from the person that leaves."

Based on data collected in their clinical assessment software, Currie said it's not uncommon to see up to a 300 per cent improvement in participating veterans' mental health.

The program was approved by Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) six months ago.

Since then, 60 individuals have walked through their doors and become a community.

"Healing really happens with community. Often when people have mental health conditions, it can feel so isolating. It's amazing to see the relationships they build with each other within the program," Currie said.

With the consent of participating individuals, clinical data is being sent to Queen's University, who will then write a research report about the efficacy of the program.

"There aren't too many places that have done what we're doing, so it really does open the door when we're showing that this model does work," Currie said. "This research will also inform our clinical processes in how we can continue to grow and evolve the program. And we're learning so much from the veterans."

The 10-day retreat includes group and individual psychotherapy sessions in addition to practices like meditation, yoga, breathwork, massage therapy, Qigong, and nature therapy.

But the healing doesn't end when the group returns home. "They also receive 45 weeks of aftercare. Being able to keep that community is very important," Currie said.

The program is one of the first of its kind to focus solely on nervous system regulation through this combination of practices.

"When people experience PTSD, their system goes into fight, flight, and freeze. We have the vagus nerve, the largest cranial nerve, which is responsible for our rest and digest response," Currie explained. "All of these different mindbody practices are about processing trauma and activating the vagus nerve so that people experience greater levels of regulation and therefore see improvements in their mental and physical health."

Elevate began as an idea from Dimensions' chief medical officer DJ Cook.

Cook works in the health sciences division of Queen's University, has extensive experience working with veterans,



Dimensions in Algonquin Highlands has currently provided 60 veterans with wellness retreats to help treat mental health conditions such as post traumatic stress disorder. /Submitted

and saw an opportunity to help treat those struggling.

"We then worked on an application to Veterans Affairs Canada outlining our program and all of the different components," Currie said.

Preliminary results have been positive and improvements are seen in individuals facing severe PTSD.

"For a lot of veterans, they've been reporting that this is a lifesaver for them because a lot of them have suicidal ideation, and that can be really challenging to deal with. A lot of them have been through traditional treatment already that didn't help," Currie said.

Veterans are referred to the Elevate program through clinicians, mental health providers, VAC case managers, and veterans that self refer, and then successful candiates are sent to VAC for approval.

Currie said seeing high percentages of improvement in a short timeframe is a huge feat, and the program is always evolving to best meet needs.

"We have a clinical assessment software that we use, and what this allows us to do is to get a baseline for treatment so we can see the symptoms someone is coming in with, and then over time we can track the improvements in their overall mental and physical health," Currie said.

Currently, Dimensions is able to accommodate 12 veterans at a time and will soon have space for 16.

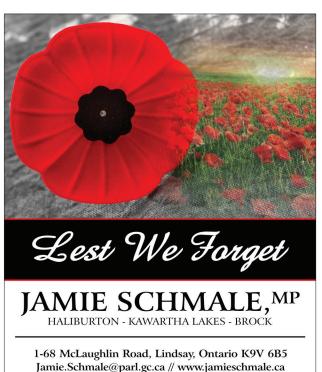
They have also begun retreats for veterans with specific experiences and needs.

"We just finished our first women's-only sexual trauma



Dimensions uses psychotherapy and other mindbody practices to help relieve symptoms of mental health conditions in veterans at a 10-day retreat.

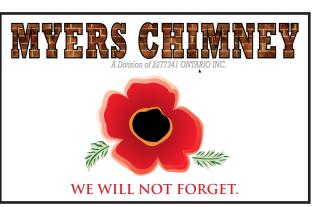
survivor retreat. We will be running those for males as well." Visit dimensionsretreats.com/dimensions-retreats-algonquin-elevate-veterans-only for more information on Elevate.



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### A time for remembrance

by KATE BUTLER Special to the Times

When I take historical walking tours through Haliburton Village, I always make sure to stop at the Cenotaph on Highland Street, often sharing some information about the 109th Battalion with the group. The Cenotaph is a landmark that many of us pass several times a week, but as Remembrance Day approaches we're reminded to pause and more deeply consider its story and significance. When the Cenotaph was first unveiled, not long after the end of World War I, the memory of the war would have still been fresh and painfully raw in people's minds. Every local family would have been touched by the conflict in some way. The names on the monument represented those who had lost their lives overseas, but, as Haliburton was a small community, those individuals were also friends and neighbours.

Pictures from the day of the unveiling show the Cenotaph draped in a Union Jack, with a large crowd gathered in front. In the background, piles of lumber tell another part of

Haliburton's story from that era and acknowledge the way in which the war years forced different worlds to co-exist. Throughout the war, those on the homefront would have tried to carry on as best they could. Work in the local lumbercamps and sawmills continued, but events unfolding across the Atlantic must also have been on everyone's minds. Today, we may be accustomed to around the clock news access and instantaneous communication, but during World War I, it was very much a waiting game for those at home. Letters from those overseas could be infrequent to non-existent, and much of the news would have arrived in the form of headlines in national and local newspapers, including the Echo. An issue of the paper from May of 1918 features an array of articles with headlines such as "Successful Raids by Canadians at Lens" and "Desperate Fighting in Ypres Sector - Towns Change Hands Many Times". Local residents must have pored over these articles, looking for some new insight or some reassurance that the war, then nearly four years in duration, would soon end. These headlines shared the pages with local news of visitors to the community and social events, many of which served the dual purpose of raising morale and

raising much needed funds to support the war effort.

The war would come to a close approximately six months after that issue of Echo was published, but its impacts would be felt long afterwards. At the time, it was referred to as "The Great War" or "The War to End All Wars", because it was thought that such a conflict could never happen again. As we know, just over twenty years later, another conflict would mean that more names would be added to cenotaphs across the country and around the world.

I hope that you'll take time this Nov. 11 to mark Remembrance Day. Perhaps you'll choose to wear a poppy, attend one of the many ceremonies taking place across Haliburton County or read a historical account. You might even decide to begin to look into your own family's history, so as to pay tribute to those who served or contributed on the homefront. Though a century may separate us from the unveiling of the Centotaph, its constant presence also reminds us that any day and indeed every day is a good time for remembrance. Lest we forget.



### Let us remember

Ten-vear-old Ruby Mansfield stands in front of the Minden Cenotaph handing out poppies the weekend before Remembrance Day. /Photo



Seven-year-old Pearl Mansfield had some help from her dog, Gussy, when handing out poppies in Minden. /Photo submitted







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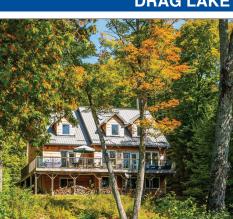
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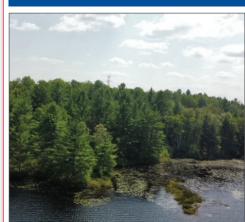
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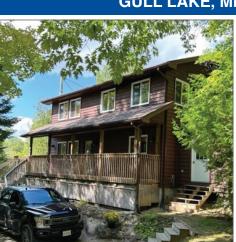


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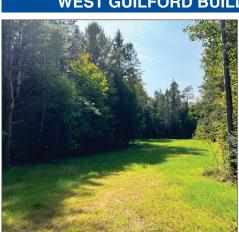


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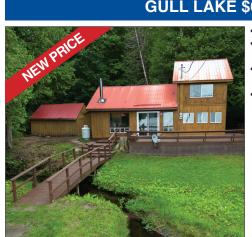


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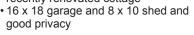


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## Local health boards look to merge for better service

#### by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPR District Health Unit) and Peterborough Public Health (PPH) boards of health are going to look into how their communities will be impacted by a merger.

In August 2023, the Ministry of Health announced plans to strengthen the public health sector by offering one-time funding, resources, and supports to local public health agencies that decide to voluntarily merge.

The province has indicated as part of onetime funding mergers would need to be implemented by Jan. 1, 2025.

In 2019, PPH and HKPR District Health Unit explored opportunities for shared service delivery in response to efforts by the provincial government to reduce the number of local public health agencies.

Completing a pre-assessment study marks the first step towards understanding how the current proposal would affect delivery of public health programming and emergency response capacity locally.

"Public health's primary reason for being is to improve the overall standard of health in the community being served," said David Marshall, the HKPR District Health Unit's board chairperson.

"Doing so goes a long way to relieve the tremendous strain currently being borne by our downstream health sector and those people working within it. If there is a way to strengthen our ability to improve these health standards, it is our responsibility to investigate it."

The provincial pre-assessment process is term sustainable funding agreement that will anticipated to take place over several months, with a decision to follow early next year.

At the end of the pre-assessment, the PPH and HKPR District Health Unit boards of health will decide whether to proceed with a voluntary merger. Both PPH and HKPR District Health Units will continue to operate independently during the pre-assessment

"Our ultimate goal is to protect and promote health in the communities we serve while ensuring a strong voice in public health for municipalities and First Nations," said Kathryn Wilson, chairperson at Peterborough Public Health's board of directors.

"If a voluntary merger offers a chance to strengthen public health and resolve some of the long-standing capacity challenges facing the sector, then it is an opportunity worth exploring.'

Efforts to beef up public health services are about to begin on another front other than board mergers.

Starting Jan. 1, the province will restore \$47 million in provincial annual base funding for public health units, which is the level previously provided under a provincial-municipal cost-share ratio with the province kicking in 75 per cent of the purse and municipalities contributing the remaining 25 per cent.

The province is also providing local public health units an annual one per cent funding increase over the next three years so they can more effectively plan ahead and prepare.

Health Minister Sylvia Jones said this will also allow time for the province to collaborate with municipalities on a longernot put any additional financial burden on municipalities.

"Building a stronger public health system, with more convenient and consistent access to public health services, is one more way our government is connecting people in Ontario to health care closer to home," Jones said.

"The pandemic showed that we need a stronger public health system and this increased funding will help to create a more connected public health system that will sup-

port Ontario communities for years to come."

The province will also work with its partners to refine and clarify the roles of local public health units, to reduce overlap of services, and focus resources on improving people's access to programs and services close

'One-time funding, resources and supports will be offered to local public health agencies that voluntarily merge to streamline and reinvest back into expanding programs and services," Jones said.

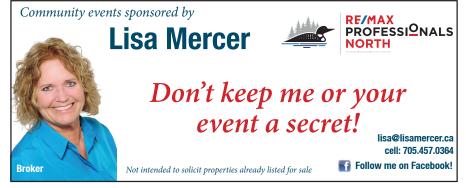


### A big win

Brett Fullerton, #31, Huskies goalie, celebrates the 5-2 win against the St. Michael's Buzzers. /TIM YANO Special to the Times



The team heads to the goalie at the end of the game to celebrate together.



#### Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

#### **Contract Bridge**

When: Every Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon Where: Minden United Church basement, 21 Newcastle Street

Our weekly contract bridge has resumed and it's hoped that many of those who played before Covid will come back, along with new members. All levels of skill welcomed.

#### **Seniors Chair Exercises**

When: Thursdays, at 1pm

Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617

Please join us, starting Thursday November 2nd, for safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

### Cribbage and Euchre

When: Tuesdays at 2pm

Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617

Please join us Tuesdays for cribbage and Euchre Lunch - Monday to Friday at St. George's Anglican Church. With funding from the Government of Ontario. Please contact lynnhiggsthompson@haliburtonanglican.ca for more information.

#### **Christmas Craft Sale**

When: Saturday Nov. 11, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Where: Lloyd Watson Centre Wilberforce Join us for a Christmas Craft sale to browse the flea market, baked goods, crafts, and unique Christmas gifts. Free admission, and snack bar on site. Vendors are welcome. Contact Kathy at 705-448-1285 or at skrogers1995@gmail.com.

### **Christmas Craft Sale**

When: Sunday Nov. 12, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Where: Minden Community Centre Visit us at the Minden Community Centre for a Christmas craft sale. Over 20 local artisans will be selling. Lots of handcrafted items to choose

#### **Quantum Passivhaus - Open House** When: Nov. 11 12, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: 8 Peck Street, Minden Join us for our open house and shop tours. From 11 to 11:45 a.m. meet at our Minden location to see our shop and learn more about passive houses and our wall panels. At noon take an hour-long tour of a passive house, at 9 Highland Gate, or drop in from 2 to 5 p.m. for an informal tour to learn more about all the benefits of owning a passive home!

### Minden Legion Branc

Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.

Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m. Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m.,

Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m. Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m. Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m. Every other Friday Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.

Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.

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# Big changes for Highlands Christmas Shindig

by VIVIAN COLLINGS

Times Staff

The Highlands Christmas Shindig is putting a little twist on the popular holiday fundraiser for Fuel for Warmth this year.

Adverse Conditions Highlands Soul Band, a new local music group, will be the sole entertainment for the evening.

Familiar characters Marple (Victoria Bingham) and Patsy Pine (Amy Brohm) are returning to host the holiday

"This year is going to be completely different because it's going to be one act, and the audience is going to be encouraged to get up and dance," said Drew Allen, Highlands Christmas Shindig sponsorship director. "This is going to be an all-ages show."

Another big difference for the familiar favourite event is a change in location.

It will be held at Royal Canadian Legion branch 129 in Haliburton on Friday, Nov. 24 with the show beginning at 8:30 p.m.

"Yes, it's happening on the same night as the Santa Claus Parade. This way, everyone can get a whole evening of Christmas events," Allen said.

Last year, the stage saw 10 different acts. This year, the stage will see 10 musicians performing together playing trumpet, trombone, saxophone, bass, guitar, drums, keyboard, and singing vocals.

"Adverse Conditions is modelled after Chicago soul bands. We got the name because we were born during the COVID pandemic, and it was hard for us to get anywhere to rehearse," said band member Craig



Adverse Conditions will be taking the stage as this year's entertainment at the Highlands Christmas Shindig on Friday, Nov. 24. /Submitted

They had their first gig earlier this year which proved to be a huge success.

"Everyone got up to dance at our sold out

show," Thompson said. "There's a lot of energy in the room with us when we play."

Allen explained the Shindig's shift came with the changeover of the committee.

"Many people who had been on the committe for a number of years were ready to move on and just wanted to do something different," he said

There are currently 13 members working hard behind the scenes.

"The Shindig has been very successful in the past in raising funds for Fuel For Warmth. Many of our sponsors have come back year after year," Allen said. "Last year, \$33,000 was raised for Fuel For Warmth. I'll be really happy if we can meet or ex-

Fuel For Warmth is a local not-for-profit organization that provides heat assistance to those in need in Haliburton County.

"Seeing it in person made a big impression on me. It raises a lot of money for Fuel for Warmth. I didn't realize how many families in Haliburton need help buy their propane, oil, or firewood to keep their homes warm," Allen said.

Tammy Rea from Sticks and Stones Productions will be livestreaming the event for those wishing to stay home.

Shindig goers can expect an array of goodies on the prize table such as golf packages, gift baskets, fine art, and more.

There will be two intermissions with the show wrapping up around 11 p.m.

Tickets go on sale at Up River Trading Co. in Haliburton and Minden on Friday, Nov. 10 and are \$30 each.

"I know that Fuel for Warmth has helped close to 1000 families every year, so I thought this was a really good cause. Keeping people warm in the winter is a really good cause," Allen said.





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## EH! presentation addresses 'algal blooms

by VIVIAN COLLINGS

Times Staff

Dr. Norman Yan from Friends of the Muskoka Watershed spoke about the potential for hazardous algal blooms to form in Haliburton County waters during a virtual Environment Haliburton! presentation on Thursday, Oct. 26.

The likely cause? Too much road salt and global warming.

Blue green algae, according to the disease control centre, can produce poisons, causing sickness and often death for animals and illness in humans upon exposure.

"So what should we do? We should fix the problems we understand, and study those we don't yet understand," said Yan.

He first highlighted the importance of algae to ecosystems.

"We absolutely need algae. We'd be stupid, we'd starve, and we'd suffocate without them," Yan explained.

He said the Omega-3 fatty acid in our brains initially come from algae, half of the sugar produced in the world that feed fish come from algae, and more than half the oxygen in the atmosphere comes from algae.

But, too much of anything isn't good for anyone.

"Algal blooms have been an enormous problem in the past. It's one of the four environmental threats that started the environmental movement," Yan said. "Algal soups that caused the death of many fish occupied the minds of limnologists from about the 1950s to the 1980s."

Since the early studies, scientists were able to reduce the amount of Phosphorus in lakes, effectively reducing the amount of algal blooms ... Until 2014.

Dickson Lake in Algonquin Park developed a hazardous bloom of blue green algae, "When there absolutely should not have been an algal bloom in this lake."

In the 90s, limnologists thought they had the problem under control with between two and five blooms in Ontario each year. Now, there are over 100 blooms confirmed in Ontario lakes each year.

"What's disturbing is most of them are cyanobacteria and many lakes are seeing their first ever algal bloom," Yan said.

He said the blooms thrive in still, warm water, water with increased Phosphorus.

"What hasn't really been considered before, though, is that the little living lawn mowers might have anything to do with it. Might we be doing things in lakes which are killing the animal plankton that eat the algae?"

Those "little lawn mowers" are called zooplankton, tiny animals that live in most water bodies and are essential for lake health.

"The entire volume of a Haliburton lake is filtered through the stomachs of the zooplankton about every 10 days," Yan said. "If you get rid of these lawn mowers, that algae will still be in the water."

He said there could be three reasons for the decrease in zooplankton populations.

The first is the presence of an invasive species, the spiny water flea, which is a predator of plankton, and is present in local lakes.

The second is road salt.

He said chloride levels have increased in recent years due to a high volume of road salt being used in the winter.

"Algae are much more tolerant of road salt than animal plankton are," Yan explained.

The last is widespread calcium decline, "a legacy of acid rain."

"And then there's climate change," Yan said.

Climate change is likely multiplying already-existent threats that can increase blue green algae, he explained.

"We need real time continuous monitoring in blue green algae 'nursery areas.""

He said the Friends of the Muskoka Watershed is looking to put out a series of sensors to measure factors that influence algae growth.

He encouraged sampling the amount of spiny water fleas will help with research as well

"And then hopefully in five years I'm hoping we can test that model to confirm the triggers, hopefully in a Muskoka/Haliburton new limnology institute. Once we have that model in place, the idea would be to highlight lakes that are vulnerable so we can test possible solutions," Yan said.

### Blue-Green Algae: Get to Know its True Colours



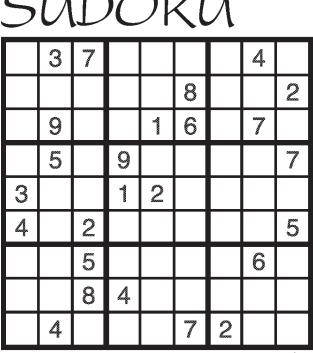




When it comes to Blue-Green Algae -Know the Facts, Reduce Your Risk

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The

Answers on page 18



# Raising hope; HIFF's goal to inspire the community

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

Haliburton County is known for many things. The landscapes, the lakes, the...film festivals?

The Haliburton International Film Festival (HIFF), ran this past weekend, from Nov. 3 to 5 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion.

Featuring six full length films and two shorts - all previously featured at the 2023 Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) in 2023 - organizer Tammy Rea believes that the festival brought some of the best of the best to the community.

"We wanted to choose films that weren't on Netflix or Amazon Prime," said Rea, "we were seeking films that were a little more off the beaten track."

But while the films were unique and varied, Rea noted that there was a consistent theme to them all: hope. "Coming out of COVID, everyone has been on a journey," she said, "and we wanted to leave the world with a little bit of hope.'

The weekend kicked off with The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry, about a man's journey to happiness, and finished with the Old Oak, about a small community accepting Syrian

"The festival starts with a single man's journey, and ends with a community journey," said Rea, noting that the selection of films is done with purpose and meaning.

We were very aware of the bookends of the weekend," she said. "What's opening and what's closing are so important to a film festival."

Rea noted that the entirety of HIFF wass a journey from start to finish, with the movies in a specific order for specific reasons.

That is why the majority of movie-goers this past weekend had purchased the full weekend pass. "We sold over 120 passes," said Rea, "and that's just perfect. That's how people can really get the full experience of the festival."

With the 120 passes sold, it was assumed that there would be some space in the theatre for drop-ins, but on opening night, the organizers found themselves turning people away



International Film Festival took place over the weekend at the Northern **Lights Performing** Arts Pavilion, with screenings of awardwinning international films including a shortfilm written and directed by Minden-native, Kate Campbell. /ADAM FRISK Special to the Times

at the door, with the theatre fully packed. "This is a good problem to have!" laughed Rea as she introduced the first film, and tried to find seating for all those who showed up.

The organizers also took the time between each show to discuss the film, and hosted a question and answer forum with the audience. That's why the full weekend pass was the way to go for those interested in discussing the selection, and connecting with like-minded film buffs.

Rea said that the core of the festival was about "celebrating the journey", noting that as we emerge from those pandemic days, the need for understanding and appreciating other people's journeys is at an all time high.

"We all need to have an appreciation for the journey people are on," said Rea, "and we need to recognize that everyone is on a completely different journey.'

Some of the topics outlined over the duration of the weekend included but were not limited to mental health, LGBTQA2S+, aging, food insecurity, homelessness, and immigration to name a few. Each film was designed to highlight either an individual or group journey, and leave the audience feeling wowed and inspired about the future.

To tap into that feeling in a productive way, Rea made a handout for each movie-goer to bring home, which offers ways they can channel their hope, and give back to the community. "These are big issues that we talked about in these films," she said, "they're big, but they still offer hope. So we wanted to highlight organizations you can support in the community.'

Rea encouraged everyone to sign up for Those Other Movies newsletter, where she not only keeps fans up to date with the coming events and experiences, she also sends out recommendations for films that folks can stream from home.

More information can be found at www.thoseothermovies. com.



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### Razz heads underwater

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

Razzamataz is known in the county for high-quality, professional theatre designed for children. But somehow, it keeps getting better and better.

On Nov. 12, Razz will be presenting The Dragon King by the award-winning Tanglewood Marionettes at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton. "While I am always excited for Razzamataz shows, I am incredibly excited to bring this show to Haliburton - it is a fantastic performance!" said Razz chair Nicole Stewart.

Designed for viewers aged three to 13, the show is an underwater, fantasy-based story based on Chinese folklore. It tells the tale of a grandmother who journeys to the bottom of the sea in search of the elusive Dragon King.

The performance features custom marionettes from the traveling troupe, which takes the audience on a colourful, vibrant, and whimsical adventure through the sea. What's unique about this show is that the audience gets to watch

the puppeteers in action during the show," said Stewart, "it makes for a literal, 'behind the scenes' theatre experience.'

While the main show starts at 2 p.m., there will be an additional workshop hosted after the performance, kicking off at 3 p.m. onsite. Led by the performers from the group, the workshop will offer a hands-on session to keep the magic alive. "Children can experience first hand what it is like to work a professional-quality marionette," said Stewart.

Tickets are still available for the *Dragon King*, and can be purchased at the door on Nov. 12, or ahead of time at www.

> The *Dragon King* is the next show presented by Razzamataz on Nov. 12, featuring marionettes telling the ancient tale of adventure and family. After the performance, children are welcome to join a marionette workshop with the performers. /Photo submitted



### U-Links seeking local project ideas

Community Members of Haliburton County – U-Links, a leading organization facilitating community-based research collaborations, is inviting community groups in Haliburton County to submit their research project proposals for the upcoming academic year. This call aims to foster partnerships



application

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thestudiotour.ca or scan the qr code to be taken directly to the application.

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#### **NOTICE: SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**

TAKE NOTICE that there will be a Special Meeting of Council on November 17, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers located at 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands.

The purpose of the meeting will be to proceed into Closed Session for the purpose of receiving team building training in accordance with Sec. 239 3.1 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001.

Dated this 8th day of November, 2023.

Dawn Newhook Clerk/Deputy CAO Township of Algonquin Highlands 1123 North Shore Road Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1 Tel: (705) 489-2379 dnewhook@algonquinhighlands.ca between community organizations and student researchers from Trent University and Fleming College to address important issues impacting the social, cultural, environmental, and economic aspects of the county.

Since 1999, U-Links has been instrumental in connecting community organizations with talented student researchers, resulting in numerous successful research projects. By participating in this initiative, organizations gain access to valuable research insights that can inform decision-making processes, increase capacity and contribute to the betterment of Haliburton County.

No research background? No problem! U-Links staff are here to guide you through the process. All you need is an idea or identified problem within Haliburton County, and our

team will assist you in developing a comprehensive project proposal and identifying the appropriate research questions. Whether your project relates to community development, health sciences, forensics, environmental sciences, or any other field, our dedicated professionals will provide the nec-

To give you an idea of the diverse projects we facilitate, here are a few examples of ongoing community-based research projects:

#5057 - Windy Pine Shoreline Rehabilitation Action Plan #5080 - Grace Lake Wetland Assessment

#6020 - Microplastics Analysis of Haliburton County

In addition to research projects, U-Links also offers opportunities for community-service learning (CSL). This unique form of experiential education allows students and community members to collaborate on specific activities or events with tangible outcomes. One such example is the annual Haliburton-Muskoka-Kawartha Children's Water Festival, where Environmental Science students from Trent University and community members work together to organize and facilitate educational activity stations.

The deadline for submitting project ideas or topics is Dec. 1. We encourage all interested community members and organizations to reach out to U-Links by this date to discuss their project proposals.

Join U-Links in making a difference in Haliburton County through community-based research. Together, we can create positive change and contribute to the sustainable growth of our community.

For more information and to see examples of our previous and available research projects please visit www.ulinks.ca. Contact our Program Coordinator, Frank Figuli at coordinator@ulinks.ca or phone our office at 705-286-2411.

Submitted

### Township of Algonquin Highlands **NOTICE** SPECIAL MEETING

### 2024 BUDGET PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES

**TAKE NOTICE** that there will be a Special Meeting of Council on Thursday, November 23, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss projects and priorities for the 2024 Budget.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers located at 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands. Members of the Public may also observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link. The live-stream link can be found on the meeting Agenda at https://algonquinhighlands.civicweb.net/portal/

Dated this 8th day of November, 2023.

Dawn Newhook, Clerk Township of Algonquin Highlands 1123 North Shore Road Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1 Tel: (705) 489-2379 dnewhook@algonquinhighlands.ca

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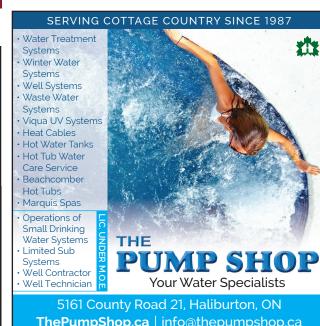


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### 300 FOR RENT

Large one-bedroom apartment

available for rent in December 2023. Single, mature, non-smoking tenants preferred. Fully furnished with recent renovations. Includes water access and private entrance. 10 minute drive from Haliburton. \$1400 per month. Includes hydro heat and parking. Please call **705-457-0861** 

**2 bedroom furnished house** close to town. On Lake Kashagawigamog. Short term rental only January-June 2024. No smokers or pets please. Please call **450-370-9435** 

### **310** SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Available Now 5km from Minden. must be Mature, Reliable, Tidy Person. And No Pets. Must have own vehicle. Call **705-457-7913** 

### 290 PERSONALS

Dearest Saint Rita It is with sincere thankfulness and confidence that I bless you and thank you for your intercession. Your power over the hopeless has given us everything. Continued devotion to you and the Sacred Heart and thanks to all who have helped. L.E.M.

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### **400** EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY







The Haliburton Echo, Minden Times & Bancroft This Week are seeking a

### part-time Production Designer

to join our award winning newspaper team. The successful applicant will be organized, work well under pressure, and must be detail-oriented. Experience in newspaper ad design and layout would be an asset. Adobe InDesign and Photoshop is a must.

Working remotely will be considered with the right candidate.

Please send resume to Publisher David Zilstra by November 24th to david.zilstra@haliburtonpress.com

### **400** EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



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### **540** COMING EVENTS



Sunday, November 12 11 am - 3 pm

Minden Community Centre 55 Parkside St, Minden

> Over 20 local artisans will be attending this sale. Lots of handcrafted items to choose from.



### **540** COMING EVENTS

**Online** Holiday **Auction** 

Opens Fri Nov 10 at 8 am Closes Sun Nov 19 at 4 pm



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### 650 OBITUARIES



### Donald "Donnie" Walker

Of Minden, passed away at the Haliburton Hospital on Monday, November 6, 2023 at the age of 75.

Donnie will be sadly missed by his wife Darlene (nee Sawyer) of 53 years. Survived by his daughter Michelle, by his son Jeff and by his grandsons Quintin and Logan. He

is also survived by his mother Myrtle. Predeceased by his father Archie, by his sister Margaret Prentice and by his brother Francis "Porky". He will be missed by his brother-in-law Tom, sister-in-laws Dianne and Sheila and by their extended families.

Don worked many years as custodian and maintenance person for the Minden OPP and also supplied many customers with their winter wood. He was a quiet hard working man who loved to travel.

As per Donnie's wishes, cremation has taken place and no services will be held.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



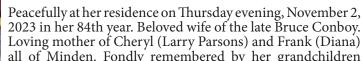
www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

### 650 OBITUARIES



### **Brenda Conboy (nee Peirce)**

(Resident of Minden Hills, Ontario)



all of Minden. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Elizabeth, Allan and by her great-grandchildren Jordan & Aleksandar. Dear sister of Cam (Pam). Also lovingly remembered by her many nieces, nephews and friends. Brenda worked in the Automotive Industry and was a Crossing Guard for many years. She enjoyed the Haliburton Highlands and most of all time spent with her family.

#### A Remembrance Gathering

Friends and family are invited to call at THE COMMUNITY ROOM 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Monday afternoon, November 13, 2023 to visit with the family from 1-3 p.m. Please bring your stories and memories of Brenda. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #636 Minden would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com



### In Loving Memory of

### Lilian Jane Harrison

Passed away peacefully at Hyland Crest Senior Citizens Home, Minden on Friday, November 3, 2023, in her 92nd year.

Beloved daughter of the late Arthur and Isabella Harrison. Lilian is survived by her niece Miriam Kalb and will be remembered by her family and friends.

A Private Graveside Service will take place at the Woodland Cemetery, London, Ontario.

Memorial Donations to the Canadian Diabetes Association would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



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### 660 CARD OF THANKS

# Thank You

The family of the late Edna Taylor would like to extend their thanks to all involved in Edna's care during her final days. Thank you to Dr. Leta Forbes at PRHC who led Edna and the family through her cancer journey with grace and kindness. To the dedicated nurses at HHHS, thank you for ensuring her final days were peaceful and surrounded by those who loved her the most, thank you for not only taking care of Edna but the family as well.

To all who sent meals, cards, phone calls, made donations in Edna's memory, and checked in on us, we will forever be grateful.

With thanks and gratitude, Hugh, Kent, Tina & Heidi

#### THANK YOU

Words cannot describe our humble feelings for the amazing support we received after our daughter's passing. These are the supports who helped us deal with this loss PSW's and other healthcare providers at Highland Wood Long Term Care Haliburton for supporting Alyson for over 3 years. The nurses and other healthcare supports at the Haliburton Health Services emergency department. The medical team of 'Air Orange' who assured us that "they would take good care of her". Kingston General Hospital Intensive Care Unit teams who with exceptional care stayed by her side continuously for the 3 days she was there. The extensive number of CAT scans and X-rays that were administered was endless. Thank goodness for our wonderful financial support system. When we announced Alyson's favourite colour was pink one of the ICU nurses Beth insisted on coming to work in "pink" scrubs and "pink" socks. Thank you to all of our Highlands East and Toronto Families' support sending us cards texts phone calls visits food flowers and financial donations to Princess Margaret Cancer foundation and other charities of their choice helping us at this sad time. With our Love and gratitude - Gail and Barry Gotter and Sherri and Jeff Klapow and family.





### This year's sled dog derby cancelled

There will be no sled dog derby in Minden this January.

The organizing committee announced the races' cancellation following a meeting Tuesday, November 9.

'We have been hoping that a sponsor could be found for this year's event," Race Governor Val Lougheed said. "But we just ran out of time.'

The organizing committee had set a deadline of October 31 to find a sponsor. Earlier this year it hired a consulting firm to assist with the sponsor search. "While they have uncovered some interest in the Minden Sled Dog Derby, no one was able or willing to commit to the race in January," Lougheed explained.

She said the committee considered hosting a race using its own limited resources and what it might be able to raise locally. However, the

members of the committee decided it could discredit the reputation the derby had acquired over the years. "If we are going to hold a race, we would want it to match the quality of previous races. With a much lower purse and support funds, we didn't feel Minden could live up to its reputation. We felt it would be better to cancel this year and make plans for 2001," she

Members of the organizing committee include, in addition to Val Lougheed, her husband Steve, Stu Brandon, Jack Brezina, Sue Collings and John Fedeski.

"We didn't take this decision lightly," Lougheed said. "We are aware that this race has become a tradition in the community and an important part of the winter economy."

(more on page 14)



### We remember them

REMEMBERING THE FALLEN: Members of the colour party dip their flags as the last post is sounded during the Remembrance Day services at the Cenotaph in Haliburton, Organized by members of Branch 129, the service was part of the two minute Wave of Silence to mark the last Remembrance Day of the century.



MINDEN REMEMBERS: With the new mural, depicting the returning injured soldier, serving as a backdrop and the County Cairn flanked by members of the Haliburton Cadet Corps, Morgan English, left, and Travis Barton, Minden area residents gathered Sunday, November 7, to remember those who died in world conflicts. The special service was attended by members of the Minden Legion and Auxiliary, representatives of area Legions, the Bracebidge Pipe Band, the Cadet Corps, girls and boys of the community's Scouting organizations, area politicians, veterans and members of the public. Branch 636 hosted a reception following the service.



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